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KABUKI PLAY

"MASAKO TO YORITOMO"

( "MASAKO AND YORITOMO" )

One act.

23  
20/11/47  
G.O.D.-1-2039

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To be presented by Sumizo  
and Tokizo in travelling troupe  
in December, '1947:-



Synopsis:

Minamoto Yoritomo who fell in love with Makiko, a daughter of Hojo, sends a love-letter to her. When Makiko is reading it in surprise and rapture her elder-sister Masako sees her and taking the letter, she reads by herself. With her curiosity she tries to trifle him. But Yoritomo is attracted with Masako's vivacious nature instead of Makiko's mildness in heart. Then Masako, too is attracted by his heroic attitude. At last they fall in love literally.

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Time: An afternoon in spring in 3rd year  
of Jisho Era.

Place: Hojo in Izu province.

Casts: Princess Masako, a daughter of Lord Hojo.  
Princess Makiko, Masako's younger sister.  
Minamoto Yoritomo.

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Scene:

The garden in Hojo Tokimasa's house  
at Izu province. Flowers in full  
bloom. Oranges in full ripe.

Flattering Butterflies, Singing  
Nightingales. An afternoon in  
spring in 3rd year of Jisho.

(Makiko, the sister of Masako, is  
reading a love-letter from Yoritomo  
leaning against a stone. On her  
innocent cheek some surprise and  
shy are seen. Masako comes out of  
the orange bush. Makiko hides the  
letter under her sleeve by her  
appearance. But Masako takes a  
glance of it. Masako draws near  
her sister innocently. Makiko, too,  
pretends innocently looking down  
on her toes. Butterflies and  
nightingales are flying and  
singing merrily besides their  
inner struggle.)



Masako: (After a while) Oh, what are you doing here?

Makiko: (Pretends as if she notices her just now) Ah! Dear Sister!

Masa: Have you been here for a time?

Maki: No.

Masa: Is anything happened to you?

Maki: No.

Masa: But you look so pale.

Maki: (Passing her hand over her face) Am I?

Masa: You are still thinking of your last night's dream, aren't you?

Maki: No, never. Since I sold it to you, I never mind about it.

Masa: Do you? Then I have nothing to say now. But if you got anything to worry hereafter, speak it to me frankly. I will be your helper.

Maki: (Somewhat ticklishly) Thank you.

Masa: Even though I would like to take care of you, I could do nothing for you, if you keep everything secret from me. I am not your mother's own child, but she takes

care of me as well as to you. So  
I, think I must do my best to you.  
Do you understand me?

Maki:

Yes I do.

(Though she agrees to her sister,  
she does not dare to show the  
love-letter. Masako takes notice on  
Makiko's sleeve, as if she sees  
something now.)

Masa:

Why! What have you there?

Maki:

(Hiding the sleeve with other one)  
Nothing.

(Masako draws out the letter quickly)

Oh! Sister! Don't take it!

(Masako hides herself behind a  
tree stood near running away from  
Makiko. Makiko runs after her in  
tears.)

Masa:

(Still running) You promised me not  
to keep secret. Didn't you?

Maki:

But ----- that -----.

Masa:

(Masako reads it some sentences  
and laughs.)



Masa: Ha ----- ho ----- hō!

Maki: (Filled with more tears) Sister!  
Give it back to me.

Masa: But, you ----- ha ----- ha -----.

Maki: (Getting angry) You are too bad. What  
makes you laugh so much?

Masa: Some interesting things are written here.  
Who is he who wrote this letter?

Maki: I don't know.

Masa: You don't know? No stranger can write  
a letter like this, I think.

Maki: I assure you, I don't know him.

Masa: But I can read his name in this letter.

Maki: (Annoyingly) But I haven't read it yet.

Masa: (Siniously) Then I will read it for  
you. "From Tomo" "from Tomo" -----  
Who is this Tomo?

~~Maki~~: -----

Masa: I say, Masako, who is he, this Tomo?

Maki: I never know him.

Masa: Then who brought this letter?

Maki: -----

Masa: (Suddenly her eyes beams on some ideas  
just then +++++hit y upon her, and

darkened with some shadows.) I saw Tashiro Morinaga has gone out of the gate. He was an errand boy for Yoritomo's love letter today. So he tried to be out of my sight. I wondered why he was so then, for he is not a stranger to my home. But I understand now. He avoid me for this letter.

Maki: He may be. (Becomes red.)

Masa: (Angrily.) May be? What a audacity girl you are! You have got acquainted with that Yoritomo, an exile who are blamed as a dead Genji in the land, haven't you?

Maki: You are too bad, sister. I never saw him.

Masa: Do you, really?

Maki: Yes.

Masa: I can't understand, a stranger can write a love-letter.

(Reads the letter) "Though I haven't a chance to see you -----" You see. Ah, (suddenly changing her manner)



Makiko-san, are you not sorry?

Maki: (Innocently) For what?

Masa: Being insulted in this way.

Maki: Insulted?

Masa: Yes, he insults you sending a letter like this.

Maki: May be. He may be.

Masa: (Growing more angrily with her sister's weakness.) Yes, he does. I wonder, all the women in Izu are seen weak and ignorant to him, I can't bear him on that idea seeing the daughter of Hojo as well as Ito's daughter.

Maki: Do you mean Yae-hime for Ito's daughter.

Masa: He tempted her in this way, I believe.

Maki: But she left him. He write so in this letter. She will be a wife of Ema Shiro parted from him.

Masa: My dear! He tells a lie. For Yaeko-san escapes from him alone left her dear own son, Senzuru for her own future for the Hiru isle again. I never saw a Don Juan like him.



Maki: My! Terrible!

Masa: (Seeing Makiko's surprise, somewhat in triumph.) You are lucky, for I see this now. But you were stood in danger, indeed. I don't know whether it's good or not to you but you see, if you keep anything secret from me instantly it comes back to you just as it is now.

Maki: My, I never mean't to keep secret from you. (entreatingly) Sister, please teach me what should I do.

Masa: Do you ask me what you should do?

Maki: Teach me what should I do, when he comes to get my answer.

Masa: (With pretending sigh) That's the question.

Maki: Dear Sister, I entreat you, teach me how to dispose this case.

Masa: Well, then, I will buy this troublesome letter ~~as~~ for you as I bought your dream last night.

Maki: Oh, thank you. (Changing her mind.) But I am afraid that might trouble you.

Masa: Never mind. I can dispose what may happen. Then I will buy this with that dress mother gave me.

Maki: My! Do you give me that fine dress.

Masa: Mother will be pleased with that present.

Maki: But what will you do with him.

Masa: Do you want to know that? That is ----- (whispers into her ears.)

Maki: (Surprising) My! Do you mean to see him as Makiko?

Masa: Yes, and insult him as much as I am content.

Maki: I am afraid some troubles might happen on you later.

Masa: Trust in me. He could know the true worth of Izu girl well.

Maki: But I am afraid for you for he is a famous Don Juan.

Masa: Do you mean that I might fall in his temptation?

Maki: No, I never meant -----.

Masa: (Looking backward.) Ah, he is coming under that tree, isn't he?



Maki: Yes, he is.

Masa: Are you sure that you have never see him?

Maki: Yes, I am sure.

Masa: Then go away quickly, haughtily as elder sister. (coquettishly) Then, see you later.

(Makiko goes away from the right laughing. Masako smiles in spite of herself for a minutes, then spreads the letter and acts some various manner with it. At last rubs it against her cheeks. Yoritomo comes out through the trees looking Masako as if he couldn't find any way to speak. Masako too, stands still looking forward the chance to see him. Cherry-blossoms are falling innocently. Both of them stand in this inner struggle for a while. But Yoritomo is beaten at last and drops a fan in his hand. Masako goes back hiding the letter as if she is surprised with him. They look each other. A while.

Yori: You are Princess Makiko, are you?

Masa: (Coquettishly) Yes, but ----- Who are you?

Yori: Me? I am the man who wrote the letter in your hand now. A poor exile, Yoritomo.

Masa: Oh! You are Yori ----- (Sees the signature in the love-letter.)

Yori: You must feel unpleasant, I am afraid.

Masa: (Without seeing him.) Why?

Yori: You see me a shameless fellow, do you?

Masa: I don't see you such as you think.

Yori: Then, what do you think of me?

Masa: (Bashfully) Are you making fun of me?

Yori: Making fun of you? Unexpected words to me. I love you with my whole heart. I wrote it with my blood and tears.

Masa: My dear, but you wrote this in black ink. You did not use even red ink. (Pretends innocently.)

Yori: (Smiling) Don't trip me up. Anyhow I am serious, deadly in earnest.

Masa: You tell a lie. For you have not had even a chance to see me.



Yori: I haven't a chance to see you as you say. However I have heard of you so often.

Masa: My God! Some one talk about me?

Yori: Yes. From Morinaga, an errand boy to your father, and your brother, recently I acquainted with.

Masa: (Makes mistakes.) From my brother?

Yori: Mr. Yoshitoki is your brother isn't he?

Masa: (Somewhat annoyingly) Yes, yes. My brother told ill of me?

Yori: Oh, no! He is always proud of you. Her elder sister Masako is ill-natured always pretending cleverly. Against her sister, she is good-natured. (Masako smiles bitterly. Yoritomo takes it in good part.) No, if you are very kind to her, I heard. I am sorry I ~~may~~ made you unpleasant with my heartless words I don't like to tell ~~a~~ ill of others. I only mean to tell you

what your brother told to me plainly.

It is my great mistake.

Masa: Don't mention it. For my elder sister -----

Yori: No, Don't tell about her any more.

Any way your brother tells me that  
you are the <sup>only</sup> model of true girl, and  
Morinaga too. On his return from  
here he is used to tell about you  
praising as a best girl in this  
world.

Masa: Dear me! What should I do?

Yori: They forced me to do such a shameless  
thing by their words, I can't help  
myself to venture to send a love-  
letter to my unseen sweetheart.

Masa: However you must be surprised with me  
far different from their talk, and  
your unseen lover had gone away now,  
I think.

Yori: No. She makes me love her more than  
ever. In fact --- to tell the truth,  
Morinaga said that your looking ---  
excuse me --- is inferior to your  
good-nature. But you are such a



nice looking girl. I never saw a beautiful girl like you when I was in Kyoto. Indeed, Izu is famous for the beauty. The wife of Gen-zanmi Yorimasa, one of my relatives, Shobuno-Mae was born in this district, too.

Masa: Like Miss Yaeko of Ito?

Yori: Ah that Yaekó! You know the case?  
(being cast down) You may look down upon me unmanly if I say she is not to be compared with you. I don't like to talk about her after parted each other in such a circumstances, but I say.

Masa: (Contemptuously.) You are very complimentary.

Yori: (Indignantly.) Compliment? Do you think of me a flatterer? I never intend to court your favour, for I would like to live with you for my life. I only told plainly as I felt. I never mind such a matter. But how about your answer for my letter?

Masa: I say plainly. I don't like you.  
(In triumph she declares.)

Yori: Why don't you -----?

Masa: I would not like to be the second  
Yaeko of Ito house.

Yori: What have I done to her?

Masa: Who was he who run away/ for his  
life leaving both his wife and  
child?

Yori: (Indignantly) That's not the truth.  
My child was killed unexpectedly,  
and my wife didn't agree to run  
away with me. Not only that, she  
is about to marry to other man  
by her farthers order. Therefore,  
you see, it is me who was deserted.  
However I never regret it. It's  
even lucky to me driven away from  
Ito house. If I clang to them,  
I could not find you, my ideal  
beauty.

Masa: (With a grimace) Don Juan!

Yori: (In surprise) What did you say?



Masa: You said you never intend to court my favour a while ago, and now you are so complimentary. That's why they say you are a libertine, a Don Juan.

Yori: (Laughs suddenly) Am I a libertine? Well, do you call the man who tells the truth plainly, a libertine? Then I am a true libertine. But that is not the matter for me. I only ask your willingness to me.

Masa: (Disappointed a little) Anyway as my father is obstinate, too, he might do the same thing as Yaeko's father has done to you.

Yori: (Coldly.) Never mind about it.

Masa: Why?

Yori: You are real daughter of his present wife, are you?

 Yes, I am.

Yori: Yaeko is a step-daughter for her mother. Therefore her mother slandered us to her father and consequently we were separated.

But this time I choose you not  
your sister, so your father  
would be pleased with us, I be-  
lieve. Ha, ha, ha, ha.

Masa: (Being stricken) My! that's why  
you choose me not seeing my sister  
who is far prettier and cleverer  
than I.

(speaks in effort.)

Yori: (Being confused a little) No,  
not I, I never meant -----.

Masa: (Pressing hard) You said by your  
tongue, that you are looking for  
your faithful wife, but you in-  
tend to look for your protector  
in her father.

Yori: (Completely beaten.) No, I never  
meant -----.

Masa: You intended to marry to Yaeko  
for her father's sake not for your  
love's sake to her. And as to me,  
if Hojo Masatoki were not my  
father, you never love me. I say  
Mr. Yoritomo, as all the daughters



of Hojo are saucy, no one got a weak will to be a sacrifice of convenient marriage.

Yori: (Tries to defend himself.) But,  
I -----

Masa: You are not manly. Why are you staying there? The ~~dy~~ day will be soon go away.  
Haste away.

Yori: (Severely beaten and gazed her a while without a word and then, Since you don't like me, I will be away.

(He is about to go. Masako sees him off thrillingly with cold smile on her lips.

A while. Then Yoritomo comes back suddenly and draws to Masako.)

Masa: What's the matter with you?

Yori: Give me back my letter.

Masako: (With cold smile) Indeed, this would be your shame for your life.

(Gives back the letter)

Yori: (Changes his manner, majestically)

Yes, I am afraid this might be my shame when I hold this land in my hand in future.

(He is about to haste away.

Masako being stricken with his words, runs after him.)

Masako : What did you say?

Yori: (Whispers to himself)

Minamoto Family is lineage of President, and Hojo is but a country warrior in Izu province.

Masako: Hojo is descended from emperor Kanmu. A relative of Taira Family. Far different from a criminal of the land.

Yori: What ----a criminal of the land?

(Yoritomo rushes against Masako, Masako smiles calmly. A while.

Yoritomo stares her breaking the letter. The pieces of letter-paper are scattered around.)

Yori: You are my hope, an ideal lady.

Yoritomo apologize to you now.

Masako: (still coldly) Again your favourite compliment?



Yori: My favourite compliment? No, I am serious.  
To tell plainly, I was apt to flatter to the lady,  
but now I trample/ this my weak point like this  
letter (tramples the pieces under his  
foot) Please sympathize with me,  
with refreshed Yoritomo. (Yoritomo catches  
Masako's hand. Masako dares not refuse him  
in astonishment)

Masako: But what would you do when my father would  
not agree to our love affair?

Yori: Even though you have a thousand step-mothers,  
who can move your father, I never care,  
for I only take you away to my  
residence in this way.  
(He is about to take her away holding her hands.  
Masako shakes her hand free from his grasp.)

Masako: Don't take me away. You make mistake.

Yori: Make mistake, do I? (laughs)  
You can't cheat me.

Masako: But I am not Makiko in your heart.

Yori: (shakes her hands free unexpectedly)  
What did you say? Then who are you?

Masako: (smiling) Can't you guess?

Yori: (worries a little) Of course I can.  
You are her elder sister Masako.

Masako: (still smiling) You are not right.

Yori: Yes, you are Masako. If you are not Masako ---.

Masako: She can't be such saucy. But if I were Makiko herself ----.

Yori: (In spite of his confusion)

I don't care who you were.

I only love you before me now. Even if you were a daughter of Ito or a grand-daughter of Kiyomori, my foe, I will marry to you gladly. You are the ideal wife in my heart for a long time.

Masako: My God. You can tell a lie wonderfully. You are the best liar in the land.

Yori: And you are my teacher in telling a lie.

Masako: Oh, my!

Yori: Anyhow you can be my suitable wife in this point. Please help me in my business to my success.

Masako: Your business?

Yori: (looking around holds her hands in low)  
Knocking down the Taira Family, hold the land in these four hands.

Masako: (Stares Yoritomo. Then looks the hands)  
In these four hands ----

Yori: It's my only hope since I came here as an exile on my thirteenth age.  
If I could get your aid, I can succeed, I believe. Please hear me.

Masako: But you said just now, that you would marry



to Aiyomori's grand-daughter.

Why could you knock down the Taira Family?  
with that idea.

Yori: It's only an illustration. If you were Kiyomori's  
grand-daughter, I never said such a thing.

Masako: Therefore I say you are a liar.

Yori: Oh, my!

Masako: And Hojo belongs to Taira. My father is a retainer  
of Taira.

Yori: (Completely defeated)

You are ill-natured, indeed.

Masako: I am not good-natured like my sister.

Yori: (smiles bitterly) You treat me badly for my  
previous words. But I have no strength  
any more against you. Abuse me as you like.

Masako: (feeling sorry for him)

Do you repent really?

Yori: (downhearted) As you see.

Masako: Then I will sympathize with you.

But can you swear me?

Yori: (refreshingly) Yes, I can vow.

Masako: Then swear me that you would never love other  
lady ----.

Yori: That's not difficult. I vow to you before  
the witness of Hachiman-dai-bosatsu, my  
tutelary god, and other gods around here.

Masako: Surely?

Yori: Surely.

Masako: (decidedly) I belong to you forever what my parents may say.

Yori: Hyoenosuke Minamoto Yoritomo thank you with my whole heart.

(Yoritomo takes Masako's hand. Masako looks aside bashfully, but soon comes herself back)

Masako: You ----

Yori: What?

Masako: When will you rise to knock down the Taira family?

Yori: (astonished) You are too hasty.  
We have come to an understanding just now,  
only a minute ago.

Masako: Then you intend to temptate my father, don't you?

Yori: No, never.

Masako: (smiling) I will persuade both my father and brother to follow Minamoto Family.

Yori: I don't want to attack for my marriage.

Masa: Never mind any more. (Deawing to him looks to the right) Oh! My sister's there ----

Yori: (confused a little) Oh!

Is she your sister? Did she read my letter?

Masako: Yes, she did, for it was a love-letter to her.

Yori: It's too bad. What shall I do.



Masako: (smiling) + will do well for you.  
Go away quickly.

Yori: Then, see you later.

Masako: Then, tomorrow, again.

(Yoritomo goes back hesitatingly. Masako  
sees him off. Makiko comes out from the right.)

Makiko: Sister, has he gone away?

Masako: (somewhat absorbedly) He?

Makiko: Yes, I mean Yoritomo.

Masako: Yoritomo ----

Makiko: Is he a libertine as they say?

Masako: Yes, a terrible libertine he is!

Makiko: And what did you do with him?

Masako: (suppressing her feeling to laugh)  
I fell in his temptation.

Makiko: O, my dear!

(Makiko stands vacantly in astonishment.  
Masako tries to hide her rapture from her  
heart. Falling blossoms. Singing birds.

(Curtain)